Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Canceled)

2.   (Currently Amended)   A method in a Home Location Register for Short Message Services (SMS) provisioning in a system including a Home Location Register (HLR), a Message Center (MC), and a Mobile Switching Center-Visitor Location Register (MSC-VLR), the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a Registration Notification (REGNOT) message, containing address information associated with a mobile station (MS), from the MSC-VLR,

storing a SMS address and Mobile Switching Center Identification (MSCIN) of the MS; location data for said MSC in said HLR, wherein said location data includes at least one Mobile Switching Center Identification Number (MSCIN) parameter and an SMS address common point code;

comparing a country code in the MSCIN with a country code in a calling party address of the MC;

receiving a request from said MC to deliver a SMS message to said MSC;

determining whether the MC and the MSC share a common the same point code scheme; and

selectively populating a SMS Request Return Result request response (smsreq) relative to said REGNOT SMS message with one of the a common point code from the SMS address point code if the MSC and MC share the same point code schemes or populating said smsreq with the MSCIN parameter if the MSC and MC do not share the same point code scheme; and

forwarding said smsreq to said MC.

3.   (Canceled)

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4.   (Original)   The method of Claim 2, wherein the MSCIN parameter is in Global Title Address (GTA) format.

5.   (Original)   The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses an E.212 identifier.

6.   (Original)   The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses an E.164 identifier.

7.   (Original)   The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses a combination of said E.212 and E.164 identifiers.

8.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 2, wherein said HLR has a database including at least one country code and at least one corresponding point code scheme.

9.   (Original)   The method of Claim 8, wherein said point code scheme is specified according to American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard-41.

10.   (Original)   The method of Claim 8, wherein said point code scheme is specified according to International Telecommunication Union (ITU) standard Q.700.

11.   (Original)   The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme occurs in said database in said HLR.

12.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of determining the MC point code scheme further includes the step of determining a nationality of the MC.

13 – 14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Currently Amended)   A home location register (HLR) in a system further comprising a Messaging center (MC), a Mobile Switching Center, the HLR comprising:

a database for storing a Short Messaging Service address and Mobile Switching Center Identification (MSCIN) of a Mobile Station; location data for a Mobile Switching center (MSC) in said HLR, wherein said location data includes at least one Mobile Switching Center Identification Number (MSCIN) parameter and a Short Message Services (SMS) address common point code;

receiver means for receiving a request from said Messaging Center to deliver a SMS message to said MSC and for receiving a Registration Notification (REGNOT) message from the MSC-VLR containing address information associated with a mobile station (MS),

means for comparing a country code in the MSCIN with a country code in a calling party address of the MC;

means for determining whether the MC and the MSC share a common the same point code scheme; and

means for selectively populating a SMS request response (smsreq) relative to said REGNOT SMS message with one of the a common point code from the SMS address point code if the MSC and MC share the same point code schemes or populating said smsreq with the MSCIN parameter if the MSC and MC do not share the same point code scheme; and

means for forwarding said smsreq to said MC.